

forming a length of continuous conductive tubular sheath for housing conductors, the conductive sheath having an outer surface having an appearance, and
after the forming, applying a coating to the outer surface of the sheath, the coating having an appearance different from the appearance of the outer surface of the sheath.

53. (New) The method of claim 52 in which the coating is continuous along at least a portion of the sheath.

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54. (New) The method of claim 53 in which the coating is continuous around the circumference of the sheath.

55. (New) The method of claim 52 in which the coating permits electrical conductivity.

56. (New) The method of claim 52 in which the outer surface of the sheath is provided with alternating crowns and valleys along the length of the sheath.

57. (New) The method of claim 56 in which the crowns and valleys form a helical configuration on the outer surface of the sheath.

58. (New) The method of claim 52 in which the outer surface of the sheath is smooth along the length of the sheath.

59. (New) A method comprising:
applying a coating to the outer surface of a helically wound conductive sheath for housing conductors, the conductive sheath having an outer surface having an appearance, the coating having an appearance different from the appearance of the outer surface of the sheath, no further processing being performed that would cover the applied coating.

60. (New) A method comprising:

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applying a coating to a conductive strip of material, convoluting the strip of material to form a finished product in the form of a helically wound conductive sheath for housing conductors, the conductive sheath having an outer surface having an appearance, the coating being born on the outer surface of the sheath and having an appearance different from the appearance of the outer surface of the sheath.
